Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* I associate myself with the condolence resolution and the sentiments expressed in the House on the passing away of Dr. Rao. I wish to tell the House that I knew Dr. Rao from the day he came to Cochin, to the day he passed away. He was my next door neighbour at Ernakulam and the development of the Medical Department of Cochin State was *pari pasu* with the development of Dr. Rao. The Cochin Medical Department, it may be history for you to know, was controlled and guided by the British Cochin Civil Surgeon before Dr. Coombes, and after Dr. Coombes was appointed he found in Dr. Rao the one person on whose shoulders he could place all the responsibilties of the Medical Department and he gave him opportunities, seeing that he is a self-making man, to develop in the profession and in the art of surgery, so much so, that in spite of many seniors existing he chose him to be the Resident Medical Officer and gave him the house where the Sisters now live. He developed. He was an absolutely self-made man. He went over to England as has already been told by the Chief Medical Officer, qualified himself for higher degrees and came back to man the department. The present condition of the hospital may be said to be entirely due to Dr. Rao and Dr. Rao's initiative. He had identified himself with the institution and I know how he wept when he was transferred even at his own request for a while to Trichur as Civil Surgeon. He loved that institution. When Dr. Coombes was about to retire he said I feel happy in my retirement in thinking that I will be handing over this hospital and the Medical Department of the State into the hands of my trusted Assistant, Dr. Rao. For a while it was a great disappointment for him. But any way he lived to get it. He rose from the bottom of the ladder to the top by dint of sheer merit and professional skill. It is true that he was a man with a little rough exterior, and some naturally misunderstood him. But when all is said and done he had a heart and he had sympathy for his patients. He was very much appreciated by His Highness the Abdicated Maharaja as well as the late Maharaja and they have testified their appreciation by giving him encouragement that a State could give in the development of a person. It is such a man's demise that we are mourning today. Cochin in his retirement was not very far away and even in his retirement he has been requisitioned by many people to come to this State for treatment. Once again I beg to associate myself with all the sentiments expressed on the floor of this House, and join this expression of sympathy and condolence with his bereaved family.

Mr. President: On behalf of the Chair I associate myself with all that has been said on this resolution regarding the sudden and sad demise of Dr. Rao who was for some time the Chief Medical Officer of the State and an official member of this house. I request the house to pass it all standing.

Resolution passed all standing

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Amendment to Standing Order

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* I move that the amendment to standing order S. O. 5 (1) be taken up and finally passed.

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* I second it.

Motion put and carried

GOVERNMENT BILLS

The Cochin Code of Civil Procedure (Amendment) Bill

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General):* I beg to move that the Cochin Civil Procedure Code Amendment Bill be taken up and finally passed.

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* I second it.

Motion put and carried

Announcement of the change of time of the Countil

Mr. President: From tomorrow onwards the House will meet at 11-30 and the interval will be from 1-30 to 2-30 p.m.

General Discussion on the Budget

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* Mr. President, Sir, I congratulate the Government on their being fortunate to place before the House a surplus budget. On a perusal of the receipts it will be seen that they have been able to attain that position by the increase chiefly under two items—Customs and Abkari and Ganja. The increase in the former must be considered

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